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News Release

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Klamath National Forest Lightning Fire Update

Yreka, CA- As of 7pm this evening, a number of new lightning-caused fires have been reported throughout Siskiyou County. The largest of the new fires are the Badger Fire, Beaver Fire, Cleghorn Fire, Shackleford Fire and the Leef Fire. Beaver and Cleghorn are located on the Happy Camp/Oak Knoll Ranger District north of the Oak Knoll Work Station on Highway 96. The Badger Fire, also located on the Happy Camp/Oak Knoll Ranger District, is southeast of the Oak Knoll Work Station on Highway 96. These three fires are estimated to be between 12 and 50 acres in size. The Shackleford Fire, located on the Salmon/Scott Ranger District, west of Fort Jones, is burning up Shackleford Creek towards the Marble Mountain Wilderness.

The Leef Fire, also located on the Salmon/Scott Ranger District, north of Carter Meadows has grown to 15 acres. Firefighters are currently staffing that fire and have made good progress towards containment. The Leef Fire is visible from the Pacific Crest Trail. At this time the PCT is not closed, however hikers can avoid the area by taking an alternate route. PCT closure information is available by calling (888) PC-Trail or at www.PCTA.org.

Forest Service resources are responding to the fires and lookouts are still staffed and calling in new fires as they appear.

Due to the extreme drought conditions throughout the area, fuels are very receptive to fires started by lightning. Even with some areas getting a good wetting rain, the fuels dry out quickly and a small smoldering fire can quickly grow to a major fire. Lightning is expected throughout the rest of this week.

To find out more about how you can help to prevent human caused, unwanted wildfires, please go to www.preventwildfireca.org

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